SUBJECTS.

however, aware that *in practice* the admission of Elavas into the public service has been slow, partly on account of the fact that till very recently the community was very backward in point of education, and partly also on account of the sentimental objections of other communities, which it has not always been possible for heads of departments wholly to ignore. The Elava gentlemen who have now spoken on behalf of their community may, however, rest assured that the claims of this important section of His Highness' subjects will have the sympathetic consideration of Government.

68. *Exemption of Mahomedans from attendance in courts on Fridays.*

Mr. Ghulamytheen Pillai of Tiruvankode (Member, Nominated) said that Friday was a day of special prayer for the Mahomedans, which could only be offered in the Jumma Musjid and that the non-observance of that day was very irreligious and sinful. He therefore requested that Mahomedans might be excused from attendance in Courts and Cutcherries on Fridays.

Mr. Kochu Hassan Kunju of Quilon (Member, Nominated) supported the request.

Dewan's reply.—The question will be considered.

69. *Economical and Industrial survey.*

Mr. R. Velu Pillai (Member, T. I. C., Kottayam) spoke on the advantages of an economical and industrial survey and urged its introduction in all the Divisions. He also requested that loans might be advanced for agricultural purposes.

Dewan's reply.—In June last, Government ordered an Agricultural and Industrial Survey to be taken up tentatively in one Division. Padmanabhapuram was selected for the purpose and the officers chosen to conduct the enquiry were the Superintendent of the Agricultural Demonstration Farm at Trivandrum and the then Acting Educational Secretary. No report has yet been received from these officers. They are being asked what progress, if any, they have made. With regard to the question of agricultural loans, an enquiry will be made as to the working of the Regulation which provides for the grant of such loans.

70. *Chatrom accommodation.*

Mr. P. V. Daniel (Member, South Travancore Native Christian Association, Nagercoil) referred to the inconvenience in travelling experienced by Christians, Mahomedans and others for want of chatroms, and requested that, either separate kitchen accommodation be provided in the existing chatroms or new chatroms built in the most important towns.

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